

# MASCULINITY REFLECTED BY WOMAN MAIN CHARACTERS IN CHARLES DICKEN'S GREAT EXPECTATION AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING PROSE AND DRAMA

by

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## ABSTRACT

The objective of the study are to find out: (1) 1. Masculine elements are reflected in the novel of Great Expectation (2003)? (2) how Great Expectations novel can contribute to Prose and Drama teaching.

The research design of this final project is qualitative since it just collects the data and draws conclusions based on the analysis of the data. The research concerns in identifying, analyzing and making conclusion. The method of collecting data is analysis content of movie and novel. The data was taken by Great Expectations movie and novel by Charles Dicken.

The research shows that Great Expectations novel has some masculine element in its content. The masculine elements found, such as: Appearance, Character, Attitude, Speech, Language. In contribution to Prose and Drama teaching, this study can be used as a source of teaching material. There are many media, especially novel. It is explained in this study. It is useful to reader or learner in comprehending the way to analyze the element of masculinity and appreciating literary work.

The application of this final project by the masculinity element of Great Expectations novel will help the teacher, student and reader in exploring, revising, completing their capability about the characterization in classroom interaction, especially in Prose and Drama. So, the teaching and learning process will be deeper.

**Keywords:** *Great Expectations novel, Fernando Setyo Nugroho, Prose and Drama, Masculine Element, Charles Dicken.*

## Background of the Study

Every person has different hobbies in enjoying reading. Some people prefer reading the story such as novel, short story, poem, even the unusual story like drama. They spent their time to enjoy it depending on their own reasons.

The special thing to the reader when we talk about novel; that is the novel

is interesting. They can enjoy it because novel presents a big imaginations. They can imagine as they want. Not only big imagination, but also they can enjoy the beautiful dictions as the writer made. From the beautiful and unusual diction, they found many values about moral, life, humanism, wish, love and also critic for

culture, lifestyle, social harshness, politic, culture and government. Novel presents a story which can be enjoyed from beginning until the end.

Talking about novel is also talking about the literature. People need literature to discover themselves and their world, to know the special roles in universe. Beside the studying literature also makes the reader aware of the problem of life. Another goal of literature program is that the reader will learn about culture and their varying concepts in a good live, it will lead them to understand their problem objectively. Therefore, the writer chooses *Great Expectation* by Charles Dicken to be subject analysis as contribution for teaching prose.

Prose has an important role in the English Department. Because it helps

students learn English and its culture, by reading literary works. The students will be able to improve their language skill in the literature by prose, because when they read the novel they will find and learn new words.

Two main reasons for reading is reading for pleasure and reading for information about something that they do not know yet. Though the writer has different reason in reading, they try to get meaning of message in the text. The different text meaning or message based on the kind of discipline for reading. It can be one of the source of relaxed reading which we can learn about human nature and human life in this world. What masculine elements are reflected in the novel of *Great Expectation* (2003)?; How can *Great Expectation* novel contribute to Prose and Drama teaching.

## Characters

## and

In all form of fictions, there are some basic elements. One of the basic elements is character. According to Kennedy (2005: 91), a character is defined as an imagined person who inhabits a story. Abram (as cited in Koesnosoebroto 1988 :

## Character

## Revelation

65) defines character as a person, in a dramatic or narrative work, endowed with moral and disposition qualities that are expressed in what they say and what they do. The character's action and behavior are presented in logical relation, which appear as

casualty. An action causes another action and form a sequence of action which can be as united and continuous actions. Based on Potter's opinion, a character can be said as a brief descriptive sketch of a person who typifies some definite qualities. A character is not only an actor in a story. It has specific nature that differentiates it from other characters. In a brief, we may say that characters are the people told in the story and every character has its own specific nature that differentiates from other characters. E.M. Foster (quoted by Koesnosoebroto 1988: 67) explains that character then, is classified on the basis on two distinctions those are the importance of the character in the story and the proportion to the fullness of the character in the story. On the basis of the importance we can distinguish two types of characters, main or major character. The main or major character is the more important character in a story. Basically the major characters cannot stand by their selves; they need other characters to make the story more convincing and lifelike. Minor characters are characters of less important than those of the major. However the presence of the minor characters are really needed to support the main

character's existence. Based on the proportion of the fullness of character's development, E.M. Foster divides the characters of fiction into flat, round and stock characters. Flat character is characterized by one or two traits. A flat character usually has only one sub standing trait or feature. Round characters however, are presented in more facets, the author portray them in greater depth in more generous detail. It is called "round" as the readers can see all sides of characters. The flat characters are the minor ones found in the novel, while the round characters are the major one. The minor characters of the novel are characters that are characterized as complex temperament and motives and represented with subtle particularly. The stock character is the stereotyped figure that has so often appeared in the story that his nature is immediately known. One of the strangest things about fiction is that the authors can make the readers reach to a bunch of words as if the characters were partial persons. This kind of language can make us laugh or cry, get us angry or indignant, and even occasionally treat as more important to us than people we know. Koesnosoebroto quotes Perrine

(1988: 111) who states that there are two ways of the character revelation in a novel. They are direct and indirect ways. In direct presentation, the author tells the readers straight out by exposition or analysis, what the character is like or what someone else in the story tells them what the character is like. On the other hand, in indirect presentation the author shows the readers the character in action. They know the character is from what they think or say or do. Both methods, however, must be used together in a story. Unless supported by the indirect method, the direct one will not be emotionally convincing. Burroway as quoted by Koesnosoebroto (1988: 111), states that there are also two methods of character revelation, those are direct and indirect method. The direct method of revealing character is subdivided into four revelations; those are appearance, speech, thought, and action. The indirect one reveals characters as a kind of authorial interpretation. The author reveals the character by telling the readers character's background, motives, values, and the like. The author also can reveal the character through the opinion of other characters. Bayton and Mack, as quoted by

Koesnosoebroto (1988: 117), states that a character can be revealed through what a character does, say, think, react to another character and to his surroundings. A character can also be revealed through direct description or explanation. From all opinions, it can be concluded that character revelation can be shown as following:

1. Dialogue or speech

Dialogue or speech is one kind of direct revelations. The use of dialogue is very important as it has dual nature. It is to convey information and also to characterize, advance the action or develop the conflict. Burroway, as quoted by Koesnosoebroto (1988: 150), states that in speech or dialogue, the readers can learn about characters by examining what they say and how they say it.

2. Physical description

Physical description is about giving or telling the readers what the characters look like. Physical description is usually about appearance that is very important because the readers' eyes are most highly

developed by sight than by any other senses.

3. Thought

It deals with the characters' inner life, what the character thinks. The readers know his or her character through what is going through his or her mind.

4. Judgment by others

It is what the other characters say and think about this fictional person in the story.

5. The narrator's judgment

### Definitions of Prose

The term is from the Latin *prosa*, meaning "in phrase" which was derived from *prosa oratio*, meaning "straight, direct, unadorned speech" which itself was derived from *prorsus*, meaning "straightforward or direct" and can be further traced to *pro versus*, meaning "turned forward".

Novels, essays, short stories, and works of criticism are examples of prose: comedy, drama, essay, fable, fiction, folk tale, hagiography, legend, literature, myth, narrative, novel, saga, science fiction, short story, story, theme, tragedy. Prose is considered one of the two major literary structures, with the other being verse. Prose lacks the more formal metrical structure of verse that is almost always found in traditional poetry.

It is what the narrator tells about the character.

6. Action

Action is about what the character does and it is particularly in relation to what he or she says or thinks.

7. The author's judgment

It is what the authors think of the character but it is sometimes difficult to determine.

But Luxemburg (1992: 119) states that prose is literary work which contains author's messages that are transferred to the reader in a long and free word. In addition, prose is served in narrative language added by conversation inside. It means that prose is a kind of belles-lettres which spreads activity to express the idea in narrative language.

### Definitions of Novel

Novel as a literary work has its own characteristic which differs from other literary works. Structurally, it consists of few character, few incidents, scenes or episodes, few setting, its take place in a brief spent of time and can develop only one or two characters with anything approaching fullness.

Kennedy (1985: 1) says that novel is a book-length story in prose, whose author tries to create the scene that while we read, we experience actual life.

### **Gender and Sex**

Since last decade, the word “gender” has been important vocabulary in society. Although this word is so familiar, there is still misunderstanding about the concept of gender, especially when it is about “women”. To understand the concept of gender, we should know the different between the words “gender” and “sex” as basically the different between “men” and “women” are represented by both concepts.

Fakih (2006: 8) states that sex is biological distribution of human sex that stick to certain sex. For example, male is a human being who has penis, thyroid, and producing sperm, while female is a human who has womb, vagina and breast and producing ovum. These things stick naturally to a male and a female forever. It means that naturally, these biological accessories cannot be exchange between a male and a female. Another concept is gender, which tells about the characteristic of being male or female that determined by social-cultural construction. For example, women should be tender, soft,

motherly, irrational etc., and a man should be strong, powerful, rational, hard, proud, etc.

### **Masculinity**

According to Ridjal (as cited in Susanti 2002: 15), gender is divided to be masculinity and femininity. And men are considered by the social view to be connected with masculinity. Cassel Giant Paperback Dictionary (1993) states that masculinity is the quality of being masculine. And masculine is characteristic qualities of male sex, which are strong, coarse, vigorous, manly, forward.

According to Scafer (as cited in Susanti 2002: 15) states that the society decides men or boys must be masculine. They should be active, aggressive, tough, and dominant. Scafer (as cited in Susanti 2002: 15) explain that boys are socialized to think that they should be invulnerable, fearless, decisive, and even emotionless. Scafer also states these characteristics are put on men as they are meant to be superior to women. Their rank is higher than women in society and also in the family. Men have dominant position in the family, as they become the ones who are in charge in the family and the ones who decide anything in the family.

### **Methodology of Reserach**

Based on the kinds of approaches above, the writer uses ethnography in analyzing the masculinity element in *Great Expectation* novel in this final paper. It can be concluded like that because analyzing masculinity element means looking for the culture phenomenon or custom happened in the novel

The object of this research is the *Great Expectation* novel (2003). The writer choose this novel because it has the interesting story about Pip's life and the others.

There are more than one sources of data collection based on different scientist. This source of the data collection is the data which is used to gather the data before the researcher

doing the research. After collecting the data, the researcher can continue to process it.

Based on the explanation above, in order to collect the data, the writer uses that first source because the data of this final project are get from another people. The example of the data in this final project is documentation. For example, the writer looks for the data sources from book, journal, and newspaper. There are several steps in collecting data:

1. Reading the novel to understand the story given.
2. Finding the masculinity element and combining it in the teaching Prose.
3. Collecting some references which are needed to support the data.

## **Discussion**

### **Plot**

On Christmas Eve, young Pip, an orphan being raised by his sister and her husband, encounters a frightening man in the village churchyard. The man, a convict who has escaped from a prison ship, scares Pip into stealing him some food and a file to grind away his leg shackle. This incident is

crucial: firstly, it gives Pip, who must steal the goods from his sister's house, his first taste of true guilt, and, secondly, Pip's kindness warms the convict's heart. The convict, however, waits many years to truly show his gratitude.

At his sister's house, Pip is a boy without expectations. Mrs. Joe beats him

around and has nothing good to say about her little brother. Her husband Joe is a kind man, although he is a blacksmith without much ambition, and it's assumed that Pip will follow in his footsteps. Only when Pip gets invited unexpectedly to the house of a rich old woman in the village named Miss Havisham, does Mrs. Joe, or any of her dull acquaintances, hold out any hope for Pip's success.

Indeed, Pip's visits to Miss Havisham change him. Miss Havisham is an old woman who was abandoned on her wedding day and has, as a result, given up on life. She wears a yellowed wedding gown and haunts around her decrepit house, her only companion being Estella, her adopted daughter. Estella is beautiful, and Pip develops a strong crush on her, a crush that turns into love as he grows older. But it is unrequited love, as Miss Havisham has made it her dark life's project to raise Estella as a cruel-hearted girl who will break men's hearts, satisfying Miss Havisham's own desire to spurn love.

Pip frequently visits Miss Havisham, until one day she tells him never to return because the time has come for his apprenticeship with Joe to begin. Having tasted the spoils of a better life, Pip is miserable as a blacksmith and constantly worries that Estella will look through the forge window and see him as horribly common. Estella soon leaves the village,

and things progress until one day Mrs. Joe suffers an attack which leaves her mute and incapacitated, although a lot nicer. A young girl about Pip's age, Biddy, comes to live at the house in order to care for Mrs. Joe. Pip again settles into his routine until one night at the village bar a London lawyer, Jaggers, approaches Pip, revealing startling news: Pip has inherited a lot of money from an anonymous benefactor and must leave for London immediately, to become a gentleman.

In London, Pip studies with a tutor and lives with a new and close friend, Herbert. Pip is certain that his benefactor is the rich Miss Havisham. In addition, he becomes convinced that Miss Havisham's financial support, toward his elevated social status, is the result of her desire that he may marry Estella someday. Pip passes many years in London; he remains ashamed of Joe, and they grow apart, Mrs. Joe dies, and though he falls harder and harder for Estella--who seems to get colder and colder by the day--he never confesses his love. Among the people he knows in London are Wemmick, a clerk in Jaggers' office who becomes a friend, and Bentley Drummle, a horrible brute of a boy who begins to make moves on Estella.

One stormy night, Pip learns the true identity of his benefactor. It is not Miss Havisham (who has made many misleading comments indicating it was her), but rather



a petty criminal named Magwitch. Magwitch is the convict Pip fed in the churchyard many years ago, and he's left all his money to Pip in gratitude for that kindness, and also because young Pip reminded him of his own child, whom he thinks is dead. The news of his benefactor crushes Pip--he's ashamed of him, and worse yet, Magwitch wants to spend the rest of his days with Pip. Pip takes this on like a dreadful duty, and it's all the worse because Magwitch is a wanted man in England, and will be hung if he's caught.

Eventually, a plan is hatched by Herbert and Pip, whereby Pip and Magwitch will flee the country by rowing down the river and catching a steamer bound for Europe. This must be done on the sly, and further complicating matters is the fact that an old criminal enemy of Magwitch's, Compeyson, is hot in pursuit. Compeyson, it's discovered, is the same man that swindled and abandoned Miss Havisham so many years back. Miss Havisham, meanwhile, is softening a bit, and seems repentant for her life-long mission against love.

Estella has been married to Bentley Drummle, a marriage that anyone can see will be an unhappy one. Just before Pip is to flee with Magwitch, he makes one last visit to Miss Havisham, and finds her filled with regret, wanting his forgiveness. Unfortunately, she gets a little too close to

the fire and sets herself ablaze. Pip heroically saves her, but she's badly burned and does eventually die from her injuries.

Pip and Magwitch, along with Herbert and another friend, Startop, make a gallant attempt to help Magwitch escape, but instead he's captured--pointed out, in fact, by his old enemy Compeyson. Compeyson dies in the struggle, and Magwitch, badly injured, goes to jail. Pip by now is devoted to Magwitch and recognizes in him a good and noble man. Magwitch dies, however, not long before he's slated to be executed. Pip has discovered that Magwitch is actually Estella's father, and on Magwitch's deathbed Pip tells Magwitch his discovery, and also that he loves Estella.

Without money or expectations, Pip, after a period of bad illness during which Joe cares for him, goes into business overseas with Herbert. Joe has married Biddy, and after eleven relatively successful years abroad, Pip goes to visit them out in the marshes. They are happy and have a child, whom they've named Pip. Finally, Pip makes one last visit to Miss Havisham's house, where he finds Estella wandering. Her marriage is over, and she seems to have grown kinder, and wants Pip to accept her as a friend. When the novel ends, it seems that there is hope that Pip and Estella will finally end up together.

## **a. Characters**

### **1) The main characters**

#### **a) Pip - Philip Pirip**

He is the narrator and hero of the novel. He is a sensitive orphan raised by his sister and brother-in-law in rural Kent. After showing kindness to an escaped convict, he becomes the beneficiary of a great estate. He rejects his common upbringing in favor of a more refined life in London, unaware that his benefactor is actually the convict. By the end of the novel he learns a great lesson about

friendship and loyalty, and gives up his “great expectations” in order to be more true to his past.

#### **b) Joe Gargery**

A simple and honest blacksmith, and the long-suffering husband of Mrs. Joe. He is Pip’s brother-in-law, as well as a loyal friend and ally. He loves and supports Pip unconditionally, even when Pip is ashamed of him and abandons him. By the end of the novel, Pip realizes the true worth of Joe’s friendship.

#### **c) Miss Havisham**

A bitter and eccentric old lady who was long ago jilted on her wedding day. She continues to wear her faded wedding gown, though it is old and yellowed. The cake, rotted after all these years, still adorns her dining room table. Twisted by her own

hatred and resentment, she lives in cobwebbed darkness with her adopted daughter Estella, whom she has raised to be a man-hater.

#### **d) Estella**

The beautiful adopted daughter of Miss Havisham. Haughty and contemptuous, she is a girl with a very cold heart. She has been brought up to wreak revenge on the male sex on Miss Havisham's behalf. She is honest with Pip when she tells him she is incapable of returning his love.

#### **e) Magwitch**

*(also known as Provis and Campbell)*

An escaped convict who initially bullies Pip into bringing him food and a file. Unbeknownst to Pip, the convict later rewards him by bequeathing him a large amount of money anonymously. He comes back into Pip’s life when Pip is an adult, revealing himself as the donor, and asks for help in escaping the death sentence he has been given as a result of his life of crime.

### **2) The minor characters**

#### **a) Mrs. Joe Gargery**

Pip’s sister. She is a short-tempered woman who resents Pip because he is a burden to her. She is attacked with a leg-iron and spends the rest of her life unable to communicate because of a brain-injury. She learns to be patient and forgiving as a result of the attack.

#### **b) Biddy Wopsle**

Pip's confidante and teacher. As a child, she develops a crush on Pip. She runs the house after Mrs. Joe's accident and later marries Joe.

c) Mr. Pumblechook

Joe's uncle. He joins Mrs. Joe in bullying and resenting Pip, then takes some credit for Pip's good fortune.

d) Mr. Jaggers

A criminal lawyer in London. He is well respected in his own dubious social circle, and is most well known for his ability to defend even the dregs of society. He is the administrator of Pip's inheritance.

e) Wemmick

Jaggers' confidential clerk. He is a good-natured man in his personal life, but is incredibly stern and officious in his professional life. Pip often remarks that Wemmick has two personalities. He becomes an advisor and friend to Pip.

f) Herbert Pocket

Pip's elegant and artlessly optimistic best friend. Though living in genteel poverty, he is an example of an uncommon gentleman.

g) Bentley Drummley

A sulking brute who eventually marries Estella then mistreats her.

h) Molly

Jaggers' housekeeper. She was once accused of murder but acquitted. She turns out to be Estella's mother.

i) Compeyson

Magwitch's onetime partner in crime. It is his fault Magwitch is sentenced to prison. He becomes an informant to the police and helps recapture Magwitch.

**b. Setting**

**1) Time**

*Great Expectations* takes place in 19th century England. Pip is born in the early 1800s, and our narrator is telling his story in 1860. This is a busy time for England, seeing the momentum of the Industrial Revolution (and the invention of things like the steam engine and light bulb) as well as the abolishment of slavery in the British colonies in 1834. London is a thriving metropolis, and England is a powerful, wealthy, global giant. But Dickens's depiction of London, however, doesn't exactly fall in line with this notion of England as all-powerful, rich, and healthy.

**2) Place**

**Marshes**

Pip grows up on the marshes and returns there many times when he's older. The rough marshes stand in contrast to the civilized city of London. One of the convicts describes the marshes as: 'A most beastly place: mudbank, mist, swamp, and work' (267).

**Manor House (or Satis)**

Once a great mansion with a thriving brewery attached, everything at

this house stopped and then began to slide into decay when Miss Havisham was abandoned here on her wedding day. The place is in ruins, full of cobwebs and darkness, by the time Pip makes his first visit to Miss Havisham.

### **Barnard's Inn**

Pip moves into Herbert's place at Barnard's Inn in London, and they live there for several years. Barnard's is quite decrepit and disreputable, although Pip uses some of his benefactor's money to fancy-up his and Herbert's rooms.

### **London**

On the news of his inheritance, Pip travels to London, where his gentlemanly education is to begin. London is most often portrayed as full of suspicious, cutthroat characters, men like Jaggers and his clients. The innocent life of the marshes stands in contrast to life in this city.

## **c. Theme**

### **1) We Are Who We Are**

*Great Expectations* has one fundamental point stating that no matter what, a person cannot change who they are. The character of Pip demonstrates this theme throughout the events of his life. Pip is a very ambitious young man who tries to better himself at every opportunity he has both for himself but mainly to be worthy of his beloved Estella. He discards his job as a

blacksmith to receive his fortune in London where he pursues an education and a job. Further on, he distances himself from all those who he once loved to become a wealthy gentleman. He pulls farther apart from where he came from and also who he once was. Through the life of Pip, Dickens demonstrates that one can find no happiness in changing who they are, and perhaps even the opposite.

### **2) Social Standing**

Throughout the life of Pip, he is constantly exposed to characters that vary greatly in both characters and social class. Magwitch, Joe and Biddy are the low end while Miss Havisham, Compeyson and Drummle represent the high class. In the end, however, Pip realizes that one's social standing has no correlation to their true characters. The lower class seems to be depicted as worse off, despite their honest and loyal qualities. Dickens' portrays most of the characters with one without the other, showing a vivid contrast between the two and demonstrating which one of these two qualities are truly the most important.

### **3) Growing Pains**

*Great Expectations* takes us through the life of Pip as a young child of seven years old to a man in his mid-thirties. This is a story that everyone can relate to because everyone has gone through the

struggles of growing up and finding one's self. Growing up is a universal experience where one crosses between childhood and adulthood and Dickens shows this by demonstrating the battles Pip fight to find his own values and morals. For Pip, he faced many difficulties in realizing who he was and one of the main ones was to part from those he loved and to achieve the goals he once thought were important. The novel ends with Pip perhaps not accomplishing his initial objectives but instead learning something much more valuable.

#### 4) Suffering

Many of the characters in *Great Expectation* all face suffering in their lives at some point or another, making it an exceptionally important theme. It is depicted mainly by Pip as he tries to win over Estella's love but finds it impossible, as she is "heartless". Pip also causes both himself and Joe to suffer when he leaves Joe to pursue materialistic things that he once thought was more important. In this period of time, Joe never complains even though it is clear to him that Pip is ashamed and embarrassed of Joe, showing a silent but deadly sad type of suffering. Miss Havisham also suffers but mainly as a result of herself when she tries to take revenge on all men for Compeyson left her on their wedding day. Miss Havisham

trains Estella to be her beautiful ward to "break men's hearts" and practices this on poor Pip. Estella also suffers in a way, not because she cannot have what she wants but because she has been brought up in such a way that almost diminishes her as a human being. Lastly, Orlick suffers internally because of his secret jealousy of Pip and this also causes Mrs. Joe to suffer because he takes this out on her.

#### 5) Parenthood

Dickens demonstrates very few positive parental figures in his novel, perhaps trying to demonstrate that parenting is a very important theme otherwise resulting in dysfunctional relationships later on in life. The best example of this is from the character of Estella where Miss Havisham has raised her in the most evil way possible, taking away her ability to feel and love. Pip's parents are also lacking from the story although Joe seems to be a good father figure while Mrs. Joe does not seem very motherly. However, there does seem to be some good parenting as Matthew Pocket is depicted as both a good tutor and father to his son Herbert. In addition, we cannot forget about the loving way that Wemmick takes care of his father, the Aged Parent, as it shows how he might have been treated in previous years.

## 6) Revenge

Revenge is one of the major themes. Without it, the character of Estella would not have been created, making the entire plot of the novel completely different or even non-existent. Miss Havisham raises Estella the way she does because she tries to take revenge on all men for being stood up. Compeyson and Magwitch have this never-ending need for revenge until one of them finally dies. Dickens' demonstrates that revenge only continues to harm oneself and others and does not seem to be able to bring any real happiness.

## 7) Motivation to Better Oneself

This underlying theme is the reason behind this novel's title of *Great Expectations*. It is Pip's ambition's for self-improvement that encourages most of the events in Pip's life. Pip is very motivated and whenever he discovers something better than what he already has, he desires to obtain it and believes in his possibility for advancement. The will to believe in great expectations for oneself is extremely important, believing in ourselves and allowing ourselves to constantly improve for the better.

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